

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 ACDA-05 AEC-05 SCI-02

DLOS-03 MC-01 /060 W

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O R 171040Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5325

INFO COMUSJAPAN FUCHU AS JAPAN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13536

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY

REF: TOKYO 13328

SUMMARY. PRIME MIN TANAKA ADDRESSED NUCLEAR QUESTION FOR FIRST TIME PUBLICLY OCT 16, STRESSING GOJ INTENT TO MAINTAIN THREE NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES. NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY FOCUSED ON TWO RELATED TOPICS OVER LAST TWO DAYS: (1) NUCLEAR PASSAGE OF JAPANESE TERRITORIAL WATERS, AND (2) LEGAL BASIS FOR USG NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY POLICY. END SUMMARY.

1. PM TANAKA TOOK OCCASION OF APPEARANCE BEFORE NATIONAL PREFECTURAL GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE TO ADDRESS NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, TANAKA STRESSED GOJ INTENT TO MAINTAIN THREE NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES AND SAID THAT IF USG ASKED, THROUGH PRIOR CONSULTATIONS, TO INTRODUCE
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS, GOJ WOULD REFUSE.

2. DURING OCT 14 DIET COMMITTEE SESSION TREATIES

BUREAU DIRGEN MATSUNAGA SAID THAT TRANSIT OF NUCLEAR-ARMED NAVAL VESSEL WOULD REQUIRE PRIOR CONSULTATIONS AND THAT GOJ WOULD NOT APPROVE SUCH TRANSIT. STATEMENT WAS IN LINE WITH GOJ DIET STATEMENTS MADE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS GOING BACK TO 1960 SECURITY TREATY DEBATE AND WAS PRINTED ONLY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE YOMIURI.

3. ON OCT 15, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AFTER A SPEECH

TO A PRIVATE GROUP FONMIN KIMURA REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO NEXT YEAR'S LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE AND SAID THAT ADOPTION OF 12 MILE TERRITORIAL LIMIT COULD CREATE CONFLICT WITH JAPAN'S THREE NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES. SUBSEQUENTLY, FONOFF SOURCES WERE QUOTED IN PRESS AS SAYING THAT IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES GOJ MIGHT HAVE TO PERMIT FREE PASSAGE BY ALL NAVAL VESSELS INCLUDING THOSE WITH NUCLEAR ARMS.

4. OPPOSITION PARTIES PRESSED POINT WITH KIMURA DURING

OCT 16 LOWER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION, STRESSING THAT GOJ SHOULD MAINTAIN THREE PRINCIPLES. ACCORDING TO ASAHI ACCOUNT, THE GENERAL ACCURACY OF WHICH FONOFF CONFIRMED, KIMURA SAID THAT GOJ WOULD STRICTLY OBSERVE THREE PRINCIPLES IN FRAMEWORK OF PRESENT INTERNATIONAL LAW ON TERRITORIAL WATERS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT POSSIBLE FUTURE CHOICE BETWEEN A DECISION BY THE LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE AND THE THREE PRINCIPLES WOULD CONFRONT JAPAN, WITH ITS SPECIAL RESPECT FOR UNITED NATIONS, WITH GREAT PROBLEM. PRESSED TO INDICATE GOJ POSITION NOW, KIMURA SAID THAT SUCH A POSITION WOULD HAVE TO BE DECIDED BY GOVERNMENT AS WHOLE, AND THAT GOJ'S OFFICIAL ATTITUDE WOULD NOT BE REVEALED UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE LOS CONFERENCE WERE KNOWN.

5. KIMURA WAS ALSO ASKED ABOUT PASSAGE THROUGH TERRITORIAL

WATERS OF NUCLEAR-ARMED VESSELS OF THIRD COUNTRIES. LDP QUESTIONER NOTED THAT PRIOR CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS APPLY ONLY TO U.S. KIMURA REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF JAPAN'S THREE NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES, JAPAN WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE THE PASSAGE OF A NUCLEAR-EQUIPPED VESSEL AS INNOCENT
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PASSAGE, CITING FOR EXAMPLE THE PASSAGE OF A NUCLEAR-EQUIPPED SOVIET VESSEL. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT THINK THE SOVIETS WERE TAKING MEASURES IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JAPAN'S THREE PRINCIPLES. FONOFF INFORMED EMBOFF THAT THESE REMARKS WERE MADE WITH RESPECT TO STRAITS STRICTLY IN CURRENT CONTEXT AND NOT IN LOS CONFERENCE CONTEXT.

6. OCT 17 ASAHI REPORTED OPPOSITION INTENDS TO RAISE
MCMAHON ACT LIMITATIONS IN UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING OCT 18. OPPOSITION POSITION IS THAT
MCMAHON ACT LIMITS TECHNICAL EXCHANGES BUT DOES NOT BAR RE-
LEASE OF INFORMATION ON PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THEY
WILL ARGUE THAT USG QTE NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY UNQTE
POSITION IS BASED ONLY ON POLICY AND THAT GOJ SHOULD
THEREFORE PRESS FOR INFORMATION. ASAHI REFERRED TO
1964 STATEMENT BY TREATIES BUREAU DIRGEN THAT MCMAHON
ACT REFERRED ONLY TO TECHNICAL MATTERS AND WAS NOT
RELEVANT TO NUCLEAR INTRODUCTION QUESTION. (COMMENT.
STATEMENT PROBABLY USED IN 1964 TO COUNTER ARGUMENT
THAT MCMAHON ACT IN EFFECT BARRED PRIOR CONSULTATIONS.)
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIDWAY, NAVAL SHIPS, VISITS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO13536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740295-0790
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741037/aaaabfts.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TOKYO 13328
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY
TAGS: MARR, JA, US, (TANAKA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005